REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-12, and 14 remain in this application with claims 1 and 10 in independent form. Claims 1, 7, 10, and 14 have been amended and claims 3 and 13 have been cancelled. There is full support in the specification as originally filed for the amendments and no new matter is believed to be added.

Applicant thanks Examiner Pich for his time to conduct a telephonic interview on November 29, 2005 to discuss the subject invention. Even though an agreement was not reached, Applicant appreciates the insight provided by Examiner Pich. In response to the interview, Applicant submits the subject amendment incorporating the proposed amendments as discussed accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Curtis et al. (United States Patent No. 5,963,599) and claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Curtis et al. in view of Meier (United States Patent No. 5,673,031).

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to more clearly define the subject invention. Specifically, claims 1 and 10 recite that the second electronic device **12** transmits a radio frequency RF signal **50** that includes user information to identify the user **16**. After the RF signal **50** is detected, user privileges for the user **16** are retrieved from a user database. The first electronic devices **18** are enabled based upon the user privileges in addition to the detection of signal from the second electronic device **12**.

Referring to claim 1, the first electronic device **18** is then enabled in response to the access point **20** detecting the RF signals **48**, **50** from both the first **18** and the second electronic devices **12** and based upon the user privileges. Said another way, if the user

privileges for the user exclude certain first electronic devices **18**, then those first electronic device may remain disabled even if the signal strength is above the predetermined threshold. Once the first electronic device is enabled, the user **16** is allowed to access the first electronic device **18** and to access the network **13**.

The first electronic device **18** is disabled in response to either one of the signal **48**, **50** strengths from the first electronic device **18** and the second electronic devices **12** being measured below the predetermined threshold by the access point **20**. The first electronic device **18** is re-enabled in response to the access point **20** detecting the RF signals **48**, **50** from both the first **18** and the second electronic devices **12** above the predetermined threshold and based upon the user privileges. As the user **16** moves about the working space, such as away from the first electronic device **18** and away form the access point **20**, the signal strength from the second electronic device **12** drops below the predetermined threshold. In order to create a secure environment, the first electronic device **18** disables and prevents unauthorized access thereto. As the user **16** re-enters the working space and moves close enough to the access point **20** such that the signal strength is above the predetermined threshold, the first electronic devices **18** become re-enabled to allow access thereto.

Referring to claim 10, after retrieving the user privileges, a predetermined number of first electronic devices **18** are enabled in response to the detected RF signal **50** strength being above the predetermined threshold at either the first or second access points **21**, **23** or both and based upon the user privileges. Data from the second electronic device **12** is transmitted through the access point **20** that measures the maximum RF signal **50** strength to the predetermined number of first electronic devices **18** thereby establishing communication between the first electronic devices **18** and the second electronic device

12. In other words, the communication between the first and the second electronic devices **18, 12** is routed through the access point **20** instead of directly between the first and the second electronic devices **18, 12**.

The first electronic devices **18** are disabled in response to the RF signal **50** strength from the second electronic device **12** being measured below the predetermined threshold at both the first and second access points **21, 23** to prevent access to the network **13** and the first electronic device **18**. The predetermined number of first electronic devices **18** are re-enabled in response to the detected RF signal **50** strength being above the predetermined threshold by either of the first and second access points **21, 23** and based upon the user privileges. By communicating through the access points, the authorization of the user **16** is able to move as the user **16** moves about the working space. If the signal detected by the first access point **21** drops below the threshold, but the signal strength detected by the second access point **23** remains above the threshold, then the predetermined number of first electronic devices **18** remain enabled for the user **16**. Said differently, the user 16 is able to access the first electronic devices **18** as the user **16** moves within the working space.

Claims 1 and 10, as amended, overcome the rejections and are therefore believed to be allowable. Claims 2, 4-9, 11-12, and 14, which depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 10, are also believed to be allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is

hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Amendment** being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. **EV564944911US** and addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on **December 7, 2005**.

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